



**U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement**

# News Release

August 9, 2006

## **Man pleads guilty to making hoax bomb threat against U.S. Embassy in Philippines**

LAS VEGAS – A Las Vegas man faces up to five years in prison after admitting he relayed false information to federal authorities regarding a plot to bomb the United States Embassy in Manila.

Apolinar Agelio Tiu, 62, pleaded guilty in federal court here today to one count of making a false statement involving terrorism. The charges stem from an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Tiu, whose sentencing is scheduled for October 27, admitted that in February of this year he provided false information to a Department of Homeland Security employee on the agency's "TIPS" Line. The "TIPS" Line - [(888) HLS-TIPS] - is provided for the public to report information about possible terrorist activities.

Tiu allegedly told the "TIPS" Line employee that he had information regarding two illegal aliens who were shipping computer printers and bombs to a terrorist organization called Abu Sayyaf Brigade on the island of Mindanao in the Philippines. Tiu claimed the materials were potentially going to be used to bomb the United States Embassy in Manila, when, in fact, he knew the statements were false.

"Making a false terrorist threat is a serious violation of law, draining our already overburdened public safety agencies and preventing them from pursuing real threats to our national security," said Robert Schoch, special agent in charge of ICE's office of investigations in Los Angeles, which includes Las Vegas. "False statements made to federal authorities will eventually be discovered, especially by federal agents trained to investigate and uncover the truth."

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*